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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/837,105

04/18/2001

Hajime Kimura

SEL 253

9007

7590

10/18/2004

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EXAMINER

DONG, DALEI

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2879

DATE MAILED: 10/18/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/837,105

Applicant(s)

KIMURA, HAJIME

Examiner

Dalei Dong

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 July 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-72 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-55 and 65-72 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 56-64 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4/1/2004.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Claims 1-55 and 65-72 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a nonelected different species of a light emitting element, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Applicant timely traversed the restriction (election) requirement in the reply filed on July 19, 2004.

Applicant's election with traverse of Species VI of claims 56-64 in the reply filed on July 19, 2004 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that all species have sufficient related subject matter and thus allow for examination of all the species together. This is not found persuasive because albeit, different species have sufficiently related subject matter, however they are structurally distinctive and thus requires further search for each of the species or embodiments. Further, merely because the different species are coextensive does not mean that they are coexistent and thus creating serious burden on the Patent Office.

The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

3. Claims 56 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,617,784 to Abe.

Regarding to claim 56, Abe discloses in Figure 1, a self-light emitting display device comprising a substrate (1); a first electrode (2) formed over a first surface (12) of the substrate; an EL layer (4) formed on the first electrode (2); a second electrode (6) formed on the EL layer (4); and a light scattering body (plurality of prisms) formed over a second surface (11) of the substrate which is opposite to the first surface (12), wherein an angle between the light scattering body (plurality of prisms) and the second surface (11) is not less than 60 degrees and is less than 180 degrees (see column 3, lines 60-65).

Regarding to claim 59, Abe discloses the first electrode (2) comprises a transparent material (see column 4, lines 50-57), and the second electrode (6) comprises a light shielding material (see column 5, lines 28-33).

Regarding to claim 60, Abe discloses the light-scattering body comprises a transparent material (see column 4, lines 9-16).

Regarding to claim 61, Abe discloses the light-scattering body comprises one selected from the group consisting of polycarbonate, polymide, BEB, indium oxide, and tin oxide (see column 4, lines 9-16).

Regarding to claim 62, Abe discloses the thickness (H) of the light-scattering body (50-600 mm) is greater than or equal to a pitch (W1 of 10-400 mm) of the light-scattering body (see column 3, line 66 to column 4, line 8).

Regarding to claim 64, Abe teaches the self-light emitting device is incorporated into one of selected from the group consisting of an EL display, a video camera, and a computer, further it has been held that a recitation with respect to the manner in which a claimed apparatus is intended to be employed does not differentiate the claimed apparatus from a prior art apparatus satisfying the claimed structural limitations. *Ex parte Masham*, 2 USPQ2d 1647 (1987).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person

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having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 57 and 58 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,617,784 to Abe in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,920,080 to Jones.

Regarding to claim 57, Abe discloses in Figure 1, a self-light emitting display device comprising a substrate (1); a first electrode (2) formed over a first surface (12) of the substrate; an EL layer (4) formed on the first electrode (2); a second electrode (6) formed on the EL layer (4); and a light scattering body (plurality of prisms) formed over a second surface (11) of the substrate which is opposite to the first surface (12), wherein an angle between the light scattering body (plurality of prisms) and the second surface (11) is not less than 60 degrees and is less than 180 degrees (see column 3, lines 60-65).

However, Abe does not disclose the first electrode is electrically connected to a thin film transistor. Jones teaches in Figure 2, a thin film transistor formed on the integrated circuit (120) electrically connected to the first electrode (200) via plug (140).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have utilize the thin film transistor of Jones for the electroluminescent device of Abe in order to provide an active matrix design that maximizes the peak luminance and reduce edge shorting of the light emitting device.

Regarding to claim 58, Jones teaches in Figure 3, the first electrode (200) is an anode and the second electrode (250) is a cathode and the motivation to combine is the same as above.

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6. Claim 63 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S Patent No. 6,617,784 to Abe in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,147,451 to Shibata.

Regarding to claim 63, Abe discloses in Figure 1, a self-light emitting display device comprising a substrate (1); a first electrode (2) formed over a first surface (12) of the substrate; an EL layer (4) formed on the first electrode (2); a second electrode (6) formed on the EL layer (4); and a light scattering body (plurality of prisms) formed over a second surface (11) of the substrate which is opposite to the first surface (12), wherein an angle between the light scattering body (plurality of prisms) and the second surface (11) is not less than 60 degrees and is less than 180 degrees (see column 3, lines 60-65).

However, Abe does not disclose a pixel pitch is at least twice as long as a pitch of the light scattering body. Shibata teaches in Figures 2-5, wherein a pixel pitch is at least twice as long as a pitch of the light scattering body.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have utilize the electroluminescet device of Abe in the pixel array of Shibata in order to provide clear and high luminescent device while improve the resolution of the light-emitting device.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 56-64 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

The following prior art are cited to further show the state of the art of composition of a light-emitting device.

U.S. Patent No. 6,091,384 to Kubota.

U.S. Patent No. 6,677,703 to Ito.

U.S. Patent No. 6,703,780 to Shiang.

U.S. Patent No. 6,777,871 to Duggal.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dalei Dong whose telephone number is (571)272-2370. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 A.M. to 5 P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nimeshkumar Patel can be reached on (571)272-2457. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



D.D.
September 22, 2004



Joseph Williams
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2879